

REMARKS

I. Introduction

With the cancellation herein without prejudice of claims 4, 5 and 7 to 10 and the addition of new claims 14 to 18, claims 1 to 3, 6 and 11 to 18 are pending in the present application. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable, and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for considering the previously filed Information Disclosure Statement, PTO-1449 paper and cited references.

II. Rejection of Claims 1 to 13 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1 to 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over the combination of U.S. Patent No. 5,685,065 ("Suzuki et al.") and U.K. Published Patent Specification No. 199,879 ("Turner"). It is respectfully submitted that the combination of Suzuki et al. and Turner does not render unpatentable the present claims as amended herein for at least the following reasons.

As an initial matter, claims 4, 5 and 7 to 10 have been canceled herein without prejudice, thereby rendering moot the present rejection with respect to these claims.

While Applicant does not necessarily agree with the merits of this rejection, to facilitate matters, claim 1 has been amended herein without prejudice to include all of the features included in claims 4, 5 and 7 to 9, and claim 11 has been rewritten herein in independent form to include all of the features included in claims 1, 4, 5 and 10.

The Final Office Action contends at page 3 that in Figure 3, Turner "discloses a core structure for an ignition coil . . . having at least one through-recess . . . in a peripheral core structure [d] and a center core [a]." According to Figure 3 of Turner, a magnetic coil arrangement is disclosed, in which ends of the core a protrude through openings of the iron cheeks d. The arrangement illustrated in Figure 3 of Turner, however, provides for additional air gaps e. Indeed, air gaps e are provided in all instances between core a and iron cheeks d. Claims 1 and 11 as presented herein excludes such an air gap. As such, it is respectfully submitted that all of the features included in amended claims 1 and 11 are not disclosed, or suggested, by the combination of Suzuki et al. and Turner.

As for claims 2, 3, 6, 12 and 13, which ultimately depend from claim 1 and therefore include all of the features included in claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that the combination of Suzuki et al. and Turner does not render unpatentable these dependent claims for at least the reasons more fully set forth above in support of the patentability of claim 1.

In view of all of the foregoing, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

III. New Claims 14 to 18

New claims 14 to 18 have been added herein. It is respectfully submitted that claims 14 to 18 add no new matter and are fully supported by the present application, including the Specification. Since claims 14 to 18 ultimately depend from claim 11, it is respectfully submitted that claims 14 and 18 are patentable over the references relied upon for at least the same reasons more fully set forth above in support of the patentability of claim 11.

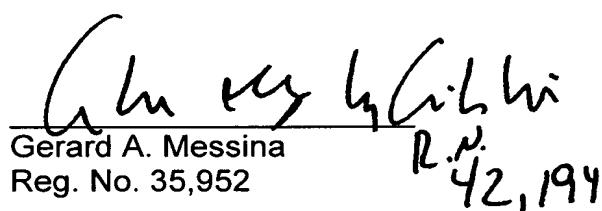
IV. Conclusion

It is therefore respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable. All issues raised by the Examiner having been addressed, an early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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